

HOUSE RESOLUTION 294
By Hood

A RESOLUTION to commend Fred D. and Anathia G. Beneby for their honorable and astute service to the people of Rutherford County and Tennessee.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to specially recognize those estimable citizens who have dedicated themselves to improving the quality of life for their fellow Tennesseans; and

WHEREAS, Fred D. and Anathia G. Beneby are two such persons who evince the greatest integrity and probity in all their chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, the Benebys have been highly respected residents of Rutherford County since they first moved there 1988; they will be returning to Florida in late May, after being honored at a reception on May 14, 2002; and

WHEREAS, throughout their lives, the Benebys have distinguished themselves as public-spirited citizens of the highest order and as exceptional assets to their community; and

WHEREAS, a retired Assistant Manager of Personnel Recruiting for Southern Bell Telephone and Telegraph Company, Fred D. Beneby, Jr., has spent his entire life serving others; he is a gallant veteran of the United States Army, having served in the Military Police and a Tank Battalion; he also served with acumen and alacrity as an Admissions Representative for the United States Military Academy; and

WHEREAS, his professional accomplishments aside, Fred Beneby has made numerous positive contributions to this State and our Nation, and to Rutherford County in particular; and

WHEREAS, he has been active in such noteworthy institutions and activities as the Equal Access Equal Opportunity Advisory Committee, the Urban League, Pioneers of America, the American Red Cross, the United Way, Volunteer Teaching of Employability Skills at the Tennessee Rehabilitation Center, Hospice of Murfreesboro, the St. Clair Senior Center, the Bradley Academy Historical Association, the Greater Nashville Regional Council, the Murfreesboro / Rutherford County Homebuyers Education Association, Rutherford County Chamber of Commerce, Friends of the Linebaugh Library, and the N.A.A.C.P.; and

WHEREAS, he has long been particularly active in activities to help the young men and women of Murfreesboro and Rutherford County grow into responsible, productive citizens including the Boy Scouts, Rutherford County Youth Baseball, One-on-One Motivation at Bradley Elementary School, Junior Achievement at Central Middle School, several Middle Tennessee State University organizations, Kid's Castle at Old Fort Park, Jobs for Tennessee Graduates, and Athletes Working for Achievement through Realistic Education; and

WHEREAS, he has helped numerous aspiring college students obtain scholarships to such institutions as Clark University, Bethune-Cookman College, Chattanooga State Technical Community College, Tennessee State University, Berea College, Middle Tennessee State University, the University of the South, American Baptist College, and Kentucky State University; and

WHEREAS, Anathia G. Beneby has also displayed a tremendous love for public service and children; prior to locating in Tennessee, she worked as a Music Instructor and Special Education Specialist in Fort Lauderdale, and she has served as a Surrogate Parent for the Rutherford County Schools and Murfreesboro City Schools and in Educational Enrichment at Ivy AKAdemy since moving to Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, among other noteworthy activities, she has provided invaluable assistance to the United Way of Rutherford County, Hospice of Murfreesboro as an Advisory Board

Member and Volunteer, the St. Clair Street Senior Center Advisory Board, the Bradley Academy Historical Association, Inc., the Bethune-Cookman College Concert Chorale, and the N.A.A.C.P.; and

WHEREAS, recognized throughout their community for their excellence in public service, the Benebys have received numerous awards and honors; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Beneby has been honored with the N.A.A.C.P. Humanitarian Award, nomination for the Community Service Award, recognition as Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Citizen of the Year, Mary McLeod Bethune Legacy Award, Jerry Anderson Hero Award, and Super Volunteer Award and with a joint resolution from the House of Representatives and a citation from the Department of Veterans Affairs; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Beneby has been honored with the Sunset Learning Center Teacher of the Year Award, nomination for the Trailblazer Award, recognition as the Order of the Eastern Star's 1997 Outstanding Woman of the Year, Community Service Award, Hospice Volunteer Spotlight, Jerry Anderson Hero Award, a joint resolution from the House of Representatives, recognition as Distinguished Soror and Soror of the Year with Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., and a Volunteer Appreciation Award from the Saint Clair Street Senior Center; and

WHEREAS, Murfreesboro City Councilman Ron Washington has praised the Benebys, saying, "Not many people have given as much time to this community as the Benebys have...The ultimate volunteers are the ones who continue when they don't have a direct interest. Fred and Anathia Beneby have had no reason to volunteer in this community other than the goodness of their hearts...When they're gone, we're going to realize the impact they've had on this community"; and

WHEREAS, the Benebys' remarkable success as community servants and civic leaders is directly attributable to their reliance on the time-honored values of hard work and common sense and their uncommon ability to work well with people from all walks of life; and

WHEREAS, the Benebys are extremely giving people who often reach out with compassion to people whom life has treated unkindly, and they epitomize the ideal of the

consummate professional, dedicated community servant, and reliable friend and neighbor in Rutherford County; and

WHEREAS, Mr. and Mrs. Beneby cherish the great love and companionship they are fortunate enough to share with each other; and

WHEREAS, Fred and Anathia Beneby are wholly committed to the noble precepts that have earned Tennessee recognition as the "Volunteer State," and they should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, That we hereby commend Fred and Anathia Beneby for their honorable and astute service to the good people of Rutherford County and Tennessee and salute their unswerving commitment to living the examined life with courage, conviction, compassion, and charity.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.